

ABSTRACT

CARR#308

MASON-DIXON LINE: MILESTONE NO. 72(75)

1767 (reset 1902)

Kingsdale, Pennsylvania vicinity

Public/private

Milestone No. 72(75) is an original monument of 1767 at its original site, marking Mason and Dixon's 72nd horizontal mile west of the northeast corner of Maryland, the beginning of their 230.228-mile West Line, longest of their survey lines run and marked during their 1763-68 commission to define the boundary between the English provinces of Maryland and Pennsylvania. As with all original West Line monuments, this milestone was quarried and carved in England, of oolitic limestone, measuring about 12" square by about 4 1/2' long, cut to stand as a post about 3' above ground with a base left rough-cut for setting into the ground, and capped by a low pyramidal top. It is embellished with vertical fluting and horizontally-fluted margins on all four sides, with fluting extending up the top ^{which rise} planes about 2" to a centered apex. The distinguishing decorative features are the Roman capital letters P on the north side facing Pennsylvania and M on the south side facing Maryland, each V-sunk into a plain shallow circle panel near the top. In 1902, during the course of the 1900-03 Resurvey of the Maryland-Pennsylvania boundary, this milestone was reset presumably to stand about 1 1/2' above ground, and now stands only about 10" high, though still measures the full 12" square. It is in good condition, unaltered, quite firmly set (though jarred by recent bangs by farm machinery), with only minor chips (mostly from farm machinery), and will be endangered until better marked and protected. On the federal and state levels, No. 72(75) is significant primarily as one of the series of 135 original monuments still marking the West Line, ^{later known as the Mason-Dixon line} famous for its historical impact and innovative survey methods. Locally, as one of 18 original monuments marking the present Carroll/York-Adams county boundary (3 crownstones; 15 milestones), it is also significant as one of a diminishing number of objects and structures with a visually identifiable relationship to the colonial and Civil War heritage of these counties.

Maryland Historical Trust State Historic Sites Inventory Form

Survey No. CARR-308

Magi No.

DOE ☐ yes ☐ no

1. Name (indicate preferred name) *

BOUNDARY MARKERS ALONG THE MASON-DIXON LINE (THEMATIC GROUP)
historic (Mason and Dixon's) West Line, 72nd Mile Stone

* and/or common Mason-Dixon Line: Milestone No. 72 (1900-03 Resurvey Monument No. 75)

2. Location

street & number off south side of Conover Road (LR-01014) ☒ not for publication

city, town Kingsdale ☒ vicinity of congressional district MD: 6 / PA: 19

state Pennsylvania county MD: Carroll / PA: Adams

3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	N/A	Present Use	
<input type="checkbox"/> district	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> public	<input type="checkbox"/> occupied		<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> museum
<input type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input type="checkbox"/> private	<input type="checkbox"/> unoccupied		<input type="checkbox"/> commercial	<input type="checkbox"/> park
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> work in process		<input type="checkbox"/> educational	<input type="checkbox"/> private residence
<input type="checkbox"/> site	Public Acquisition	Accessible		<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment	<input type="checkbox"/> religious
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> object	<input type="checkbox"/> in process	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted		<input type="checkbox"/> government	<input type="checkbox"/> scientific
	<input type="checkbox"/> being considered	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: unrestricted		<input type="checkbox"/> industrial	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> not applicable	<input type="checkbox"/> no		<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> other: boundary marker

4. Owner of Property (give names and mailing addresses of all owners)

(monument only; see Thematic Group National Register nomination form)
name State of Maryland / Commonwealth of Pennsylvania

street & number telephone no.:

city, town state and zip code

5. Location of Legal Description

N/A (see surrounding property ownership list)
courthouse, registry of deeds, etc.

liber

street & number folio

city, town state

6. Representation in Existing Historical Surveys

title Carroll County Historic Sites Inventory

date CARR-308 entered 1/80 ☐ federal ☒ state ☐ county ☐ local

depository for survey records Maryland Historical Trust

city, town Annapolis state Maryland

7. Description

Survey No. CARR-308

Condition

☒ excellent
☐ good
☐ fair

☐ deteriorated
☐ ruins
☐ unexposed

Check one

☒ unaltered
☐ altered

Check one

☒ original site
☐ moved date of move _____

Prepare both a summary paragraph and a general description of the resource and its various elements as it exists today.

Milestone No. 72(75) marks Mason and Dixon's 72nd horizontal mile west of the northeast corner of Maryland, the beginning of their 230.228-mile West Line. It is an original milestone of 1767, firmly set at its original site where it was reset in 1902 during the course of the 1900-03 Resurvey of the Maryland-Pennsylvania boundary. It is in good condition, unaltered.

The area here is quite level, open farmland, sparsely settled. The site is within Election District 1 of Carroll County, MD; Germany Township of Adams County, PA; about $3\frac{1}{4}$ miles due east of Harney, MD; about $1\frac{1}{2}$ miles west southwest of the scattered settlement of Kingsdale, PA; about 3200' south of Conover Road (LR-01014), off the end of a long private lane to the Milburn brick house, in a fenced farm field about 60' from the corner of an east-west/north-south fencing marked by a large deciduous tree. It cannot be seen from any road or easily from closeby, any season, and is endangered by farm machinery because it is unmarked and so low in the ground.

As with all original West Line monuments, this milestone was quarried and carved in England, of oolitic limestone, measured about 12" square by about $4\frac{1}{2}$ ' long, cut to stand as a post about 3' above ground with a rough-cut base for setting into the ground, and with a low pyramidal top. It is embellished with vertical fluting and horizontally-fluted margins on all four sides, with fluted planes rising about 2" to a centered apex. The distinguishing/^{decorative} features are the Roman capital letters P on the north side facing Pennsylvania and M on the south side facing Maryland, each V-sunk into a plain shallow circle panel near the top. In 1902, No. 72(75) was reset presumably to stand about $1\frac{1}{2}$ ' above ground, and now stands only about 10" high, though still measures a full 12" square. It is quite firmly set though/^{recently} nicked and slightly loosened by farm machinery banging into it; is in good condition, with only minor nicks and chips (especially on the south side and into the letter M), and/^{all surfaces are} noticeably weathered.

(see Thematic Group National Register nomination form for full descriptions of the original Mason and Dixon monuments and the 1900-03 Resurvey method of resetting them)

8. Significance

Survey No. CARR-308

Period	Areas of Significance—Check and justify below			
<input type="checkbox"/> prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> community planning	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> religion
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-historic	<input type="checkbox"/> conservation	<input type="checkbox"/> law	<input type="checkbox"/> science
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> economics	<input type="checkbox"/> literature	<input type="checkbox"/> sculpture
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> social/
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> humanitarian
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> theater
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> other (specify) boundary surveying

Specific dates 1767 (reset 1902) Builder/Architect Charles Mason & Jeremiah Dixon

check: Applicable Criteria: ☐ A ☐ B ☐ C ☐ D
and/or

Applicable Exception: ☐ A ☐ B ☐ C ☐ D ☐ E ☐ F ☐ G

Level of Significance: ☒ national ☒ state ☒ local

Prepare both a summary paragraph of significance and a general statement of history and support.

Milestone No. 72(75) is significant on the national and state levels primarily as one of a series of 135 original Mason and Dixon monuments still defining their 230.228-mile West Line, the boundary later known as the Mason-Dixon Line, famous for its historical impact and precise, innovative survey methods. The site was preliminarily surveyed in 1765 and monument set in 1767, where it remains ^{in good condition}unaltered to this day, although reset more securely in 1902 during the course of the 1900-03 Resurvey of the Maryland-Pennsylvania boundary. Locally, as one of 18 original monuments marking the present Carroll/York-Adams county boundary (3 crownstones; 15 milestones), No. 72(75) is also significant as one of a diminishing number of objects and structures with a visually identifiable relationship to the colonial and Civil War heritage of these counties.

HISTORY AND SUPPORT (see Thematic Group National Register nomination form)

9. Major Bibliographical References

Survey No. CARR-308

(see Thematic Group National Register nomination form)

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of nominated property less than one acreQuadrangle name Taneytown (Maryland-Pennsylvania)Quadrangle scale 1:24000UTM References USGS 7.5 minute (topographic)

do NOT complete UTM references

A	1 8	3 1 6	4 3 9 8
Zone	Easting	North	ing

B			
Zone	Easting	North	ing

C			
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D			
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E			
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F			
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G			
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H			
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Verbal boundary description and justification N/A

List all states and counties for properties overlapping state or county boundaries

state	Maryland	code	county	Carroll	code
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state	Pennsylvania	code	county	Adams	code
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11. Form Prepared By

name/title Alice Martin (volunteer, Mason & Dixon's West Line boundary marker surveyor)organization Maryland Historical Trust &
Maryland Geological Surveydate 9/11/80 (site surveyed)street & number 14308 Mount Avenuetelephone 301/472-2128city or town Phoenixstate Maryland 21131

The Maryland Historic Sites Inventory was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 supplement.

The survey and inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

return to: Maryland Historical Trust
Shaw House
21 State Circle
Annapolis, Maryland 21401
(301) 269-2438

TANEYTOWN QUADRANGLE

MARYLAND—PENNSYLVANIA

7.5 MINUTE SERIES (TOPOGRAPHIC)
1953 PHOTO REV. 1971 SCALE: 1"=2000'

55831 SE
TMC SHERPYSTOWN



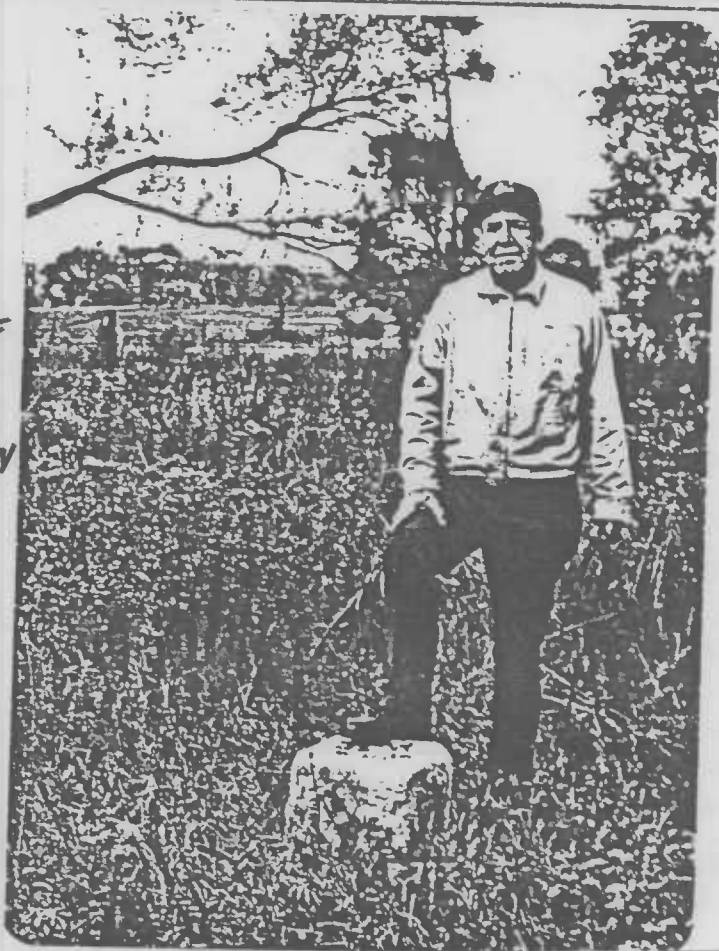
MASON & DIXON WEST LINE: MILESTONE 72(75)
 OFF US CONVOY ROAD, LITTLETON, PA. VICINITY
 SE CORNER (M/-) SHOULD CHAIN FROM LAST
 SURVEYERS MONUMENT
 PHOTO: ALICE MARTIN (1980.27.27A) 10/20/80



VIEW LOOKING
 NORTHWEST
 OF MONUMENT
 IN RELATION TO
 FENCE CORNER

MCS

MASON & DIXON WEST LINE: MILESTONE 72(75)
 OFF US CONVOY ROAD, LITTLETON, PA. VICINITY
 NW CORNER (P/-)
 PHOTO: ALICE MARTIN (1980.27.25A) 10/20/80



VIEW NORTHWEST OF
 MONUMENT &
 PROPERTY OWNER
 MOSBEY K. MILBURN



MASON'S DIXON'S WEST LINE: MILESTONE 72 (75) ORIGINAL (1767)
OFF SE CORNER RD, KINGSDALE, PA, VICINITY
SE CORNER (11/-)

PHOTO: ALICE MARTIN (1980.27.28A) 10/20/80



CARR-308

MASON DIXON WEST LINE: MILESTONE 72 (75), ORIGINAL (1767)
OFF S/S CONOVER ROAD, KINGS DALE, PA. VICINITY
NW CORNER (P/-)

PHOTO: ALICE MARTIN (1980.27.24A) 10/20/80